



CALIFORNIA

Technician/AGR Administrative Instruction

National Guard Technicians - CAL NG Active Guard/Reserve

MILITARY DEPARTMENT

**P. O. BOX 269101
Sacramento, CA 95826-9101**

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1 January 2002

PROHIBITION OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR LOBBYING

1. This is a reminder that all Federal government employees are prohibited from engaging in certain political activities, such as "grass roots" lobbying. All personnel should review and comply with National Guard Bureau All-States Memorandum P99-0022, Use of Federal Funds for Lobbying or Propaganda. Your attention is specifically directed to paragraph 5, prohibited actions, which states:

"The following actions would be violations of the Anti-Lobbying Act and related lobbying laws when in federal status or paid with federal funds or when any use of Federal supplies, equipment, or other resources is made."

a. Employees may not engage in large scale "grass roots" lobbying activities with respect to legislation or appropriations. That is, they may not engage in a significant effort to encourage members of the general public (including a private organization, state or local agency, or other public organization) to contact or communicate with Congress on legislation or appropriations.

b. It is considered "grass roots" lobbying - and therefore is proscribed - to distribute written materials to the public on a large scale that encourage members of the public to contact or communicate with Congress about legislation or appropriations. Therefore, department or agency officials:

- May distribute written materials to the public, even on a large scale, that advocate the administration's position on legislative matters, including legislation or appropriations, but do not encourage members of the public to contact or communicate with Congress;
- May make a statement in writing that advocates the administration's position but does not encourage members of the public to contact or communicate with Congress;
- May also make public speeches that promote the administration's position on legislative matters, including legislation or appropriations. These speeches may even encourage members of the public to support the administration's legislative position, so long as the department does not distribute copies of materials containing that encouragement to the public on a large scale.

c. During work hours or in a duty status, department or agency personnel may not contact members of Congress or congressional staff members outside proper official channels to urge action about legislation or appropriations.

d. During non-work or non-duty hours, Department or Agency personnel may not use Federal communications resources, supplies, and other resources either to contact members of Congress or congressional staff members for lobbying purposes or to urge other persons to do so.

e. Department or agency personnel may not use Federal funds to hire a lobbyist.

f. Department or agency personnel may not develop or prepare material to be used for the purpose of lobbying Congress, except when prepared for use by the Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or the Department of the Air Force in support of departmental positions through official channels.

g. Department or agency officials may not use appropriated funds to aid any outside organization in conducting large-scale grass roots lobbying activities with respect to legislation or appropriations. Therefore, department or agency officials:

- Should not create any materials for the organization to distribute in connection with such activities or have any government employee spend time collecting materials that would not otherwise have been collected.
- Should not solicit the organization to conduct large-scale grass roots lobbying activities, or control the organization in its conduct of such activities. Department or agency officials should not use the outside organization as an arm of the department to engage in proscribed grass roots lobbying activities.

3. Subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552), department or agency officials may provide preexisting materials or information to an outside organization, at the organization's request, for it to reproduce and distribute as it sees fit in connection with any lobbying activity.

4. Direct questions concerning this TAAI to 2d Lt Stuart Ewing at CAGNET 63402, DSN 466-3402 or (916) 854-3402.

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

JEFFREY D. STUARD
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